

Sunday Reading.

Innocence at Prayer.

The twilight hour—the moon above bright on high,
And pours her radiance o'er earth and sky;
She seems to smile upon the silent scene,
And all seems hushed in sweet and solemn rest.

The stars of heaven their holy lights shed,
Upon a kneeling infant's gentle head;

Sweet purity and peace seem to brood there,

Where knelt that lovely child at evening prayer.

He earnestly knelt at his lowly shrine,
His little sin that lovely hand has stained;

But yet with innocence on his face!

She knelt in prayer at God's sweet throne of grace.

Her hands uplifted towards the boundless sky,

Upon her face a heavenly smile doth beam,

Like gentle moonlight over the waters gleam.

A come and go—no man's power could tell

The love thoughts that in her bosom swell,

Or would that pauper's pencil ever trace

The happy features of childhood here.

Soon child, may angel guard thy cherished form,

And shield thee from the desolating storm.

Thy God shall comfort thee from the depths of misery.

Te well with thee, friend of childhood—

AARON VANDERWERF.

Family Prayer.

The executors often made that family

prayer cannot maintain, on account of

the inability of the head of the house-

hold to lead the devotion of those who

well beneath his roof. The truth is, it

is no excuse at all; for the service, how-

ever poorly or inadequately performed, is

better than its neglect. In effect upon a

family one only is estimated by those who

have tried it, and know the good it

accomplishes. Whilst it is of divine ob-

ligation, like all other manners which

tame us in God's word, its results can

be seen, and are so sensible that we feel

assured heavenly wisdom could alone

have devised it. Indeed; religion is in-

tended to a company us in all our social

relations. We behold it assuming a

grandest proportions, its more stately ap-

pearances when the great congregations

are gathered together for worship.

Descending a step, a lovely exhibitor of

its power is seen when a company of

Christians, in social w'sip pour out

their hearts to God, and each receives

from the other a measure of the fervor

which fills the soul of every true believer.

As the circle still narrows, the family al-

tar gathers its little group at morn and eve,

to send their united supplications to

the most High, and the sweetness of

domestic happiness is mingled in the cup

of thanksgiving, or softens the tear which

trickles down the cheek when sorrow has

invaded the sacred spot we love to call

our home. And from that assembled

family, each member at last retires to his

own closer, there to commune in secret

with his God, and to disclose to the Om-

niscient the burden which weighs heavily

the thoughts which distract; and the un-

holy temper which mars the character.

The day is only well begun when com-

menced with family devotion. A soothing,

tranquilizing influence is poured upon ev-

ery heart and man goes forth with such

a service unto his labor until evening,

feeling that God's blessing, thus sought,

accompanies him; and that God's favor

goes with him.—E. Isaac Recorder.

The True Doctrine.

Our praying, singing, and Bible reading will not help us heavenward, unless we are just between man and man. The Christian profession is nothing without the Christian life. Our religion, in order to change us rationally, must descend into all the commonest duties. It belongs as much to the family, and as much to the family as to the sanctuary. No man can be a Christian who is not faithful in his common daily life pursuits. The judge must administer justice from equity, and not from favor or the bribe. The physician must regard the health of his patient above all other considerations. The merchant must deal justly, and the mechanic to execute his work in all things faithfully. It will not answer to disregard those things. My brother, do not hope to reach heaven in the old way. You must walk in another narrower road.

Let us suppose you are a workman. Now wht is Christianity in the workshop? You cannot leave it behind you, go where you will; for it is n'resly fitting garment, bat an element of life. Yes, you must take it with you into the workshop. Not as the Bible is your hand nor hymns to make the air m'nt; nor as pious ale with fellow workmen. No; worksho; Christianity consists in a religious fidelity to your employer and his customers. If you neglect or slight the work you are paid to perform, you cannot sit—you are irreligious—and your pious acts will go for nothing—Channing.

Search the Scriptures.

We suppose the mass of intelligent people have an idea that the Republican party is from four to five years of age. In this matter such boldy posted persons must bear buster and in their struggle after knowledge a little child shall lead them."

On Sunday last a lady was listening to her class Sunday school. The lesson was in Christ's Sermon on the Mount, in the 55th chapter of Matthew, wherein our Savior descants upon the beauties and upon love to our neighbor. There was a little hitch up in the 46th verse, until it came to a bright eyed, easy chatted little girl, who with that commendable pride and promptness which characterizes the child who knows she is, perched in her lesson, gave the lesson thus:

"For if ye love them that lov you what reward have ye? Do not even they leas to you?"—Cleveland Bee.

Our welcome of a stranger depends upon the name he bear—upon the coat he wears; our farewells upon the spirit he has displayed in the interview.—Talleyrand.

Deep things there are, which, with unthinking persons, pass for shallow things, merely because they are easier, as well as deeper.—Friends in Council.

It is said of Erskine that he always spoke of Satan with respect, as of a great statesman out of place, leader of the Opposition.

Marie has rarely risen of itself, pebble or twig is often quite sufficient for it to spring from the highest ascent:

He who places himself neither higher nor lower than he ought to do, deserves the trust humanity.

The rose on the cheek, and the canker at the heart, do not flourish at the same time.

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